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House Intelligence Chairman Statement on Resignation of CIA Director Porter Goss

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement after President George W. Bush announced the resignation of CIA Director Porter Goss:

“Porter Goss has done a solid job leading the long process of rebuilding an intelligence agency that is rebounding from the budget cuts and bad policies in the 1990s that diminished its capabilities and led to intelligence failures early this century. I commend Porter for his efforts to strengthen our operational capabilities and increase the numbers of analysts and linguists working at the Agency.

“Porter has provided long and distinguished service to the United States in all respects: First as a CIA officer, then as a Congressman and my immediate predecessor as chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I applaud Porter for his commitment and leadership on intelligence matters.

“As President Bush considers a successor, it is critical he look for someone who will continue Porter’s work to transform and modernize the Agency. Creating an empowered, flexible and capable human intelligence capability has to be the top priority and our primary focus.”